

Weekly Message

Dear Friend,

Harriet Montier, a long time Food Pantry volunteer, passed away this week at the age of 100. Her grandson, Lawrence, came by to tell Tim, in person. Harriet went peacefully and was surrounded by her family. I had the pleasure of knowing Harriet since I started working at FID in 2017. She was hilarious! She stood maybe 5'0 tall, but her spirit, her laugh and her whip smart humor added at least a foot to her physical height. While I could tell some stories, I want to share what Tim wrote about Harriet in an email to the Food Pantry volunteers.

Harriet started volunteering at Friends In Deed in 1981 and was a Tuesday morning regular until the pandemic struck in March of 2020. If that pandemic hadn't happened, I believe she would have continued until the end. She was a cornerstone for those Tuesday mornings. Everyone that came in new Harriet or, at least, knew of her.

I first met Harriet when I started as a volunteer in July 2012 and got to know her better over the years after I became the Program Director in January of 2013. Harriet liked to laugh. She'd tell stories that would crack me and her up. She'd talk about her life in Pasadena. She'd talk about her family - kids, grandkids, and great & great-great grandkids. And she would talk about Friends In Deed and the Food Pantry back in the '80s and '90s and how it was different and the same.

Harriet was also "no nonsense" and tough as nails. 100%. I remember one day when a regular pantry visitor came in to get food. He wasn't a bad guy, but he was often loud and could be a bit of a handful. Always trying to stretch the rules or see if he could put something by me and the volunteers. This particular morning it seemed like he was going to see what he could do. I watched from my office as Harriet watched him as he moved around the pantry. She was paying attention to him and I could tell she was having none of it. He got up to the checkout counter and was giving Harriet a smirk. Well, Harriet looked him right in the eyes, straight faced,

and said "What are you smirking at? I'll wipe that smirk right off your face." Well, he straightened right up, like he had just been corrected by his mom, and said "I'm sorry, Miss Harriet." And that was that. He never acted that way with Harriet again. I've thought about that time a lot over the years and it always made me smile.

I last saw Harriet this past Thanksgiving when she just dropped by. We visited just briefly, but it was really nice to see her. Lawrence and I had discussed then about Harriet's return to volunteering, even if it could be just once a month. Unfortunately, that didn't happen.

But it would have been fantastic if it had.

So, I will finish this by saying "thank you, Harriet. It was my honor to know you."

We offer Harriet's entire family our heartfelt condolences, and gratitude for the nearly four decades of service to our Food Pantry. May her memory be for a blessing, and may she rest in peace.





Switching to The Women's Room for a moment, I want to let you know that with the increase in attendance, and with a decrease in volunteers bringing lunch, we are in need of folks who can help out to feed The Women's Room guests! This is from Lindsey, the director of TWR:

- We are looking for lunches for 35-40 women (this allows us to give women seconds or to-go food as it may be their only meal of the day)
- Any wholesome meals are welcome. Soups, sandwiches, chicken meals, burgers, lasagna or pasta dishes. They can be homemade with groups, or purchased hot from restaurants or stores.
- We do ask that they include a salad or veggie side, and most groups choose to include a dessert.
- All meals must be ready to serve upon arrival.
- We serve lunch at 12, so delivery between 11 and 11:30 is perfect.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Lindsey, lindseyr@friendsindeedpas.org.

Finally, Monday is September 11th, a solemn day of remembrance for our nation. I offer comfort and strength to people who lost loved ones; for all of the first responders who risked and/or gave their lives to help others; and to all of us that suffered the pain of that horrible day.

Blessings and have a lovely weekend, Rabbi Joshua



P.S. Stories from the Street is live and ready for sponsors and donors! See the link below and mark your calendars for Oct. 14!

Stories from the Street

Experience an unforgettable night under the stars at our outdoor movie night fundraiser, featuring *The Soloist* on Saturday, October 14th at Farnsworth Park in Altadena. Support our fundraiser, come enjoy a movie, and walk away with a little more awareness around homelessness. Join in making a positive impact and enjoying a night of entertainment!

STORIES

from the

STREET

Short features chead of the movie will highlight local stories from FID clients, as well as an exclusive introduction by LA Times Columnist and author of the book, "The Solois,"

Steve Lopez.

More information <u>available here.</u>

We can only operate with your help!

Donate today

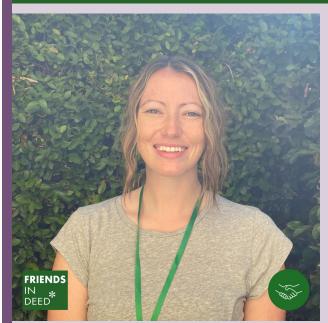
Forever Friends Legacy Society

Get Social









Welcome, Kassidy!

We have a new team member!
Kassidy Todd is an MSW intern for our Street Outreach and Housing program. She comes with experience working with youth of different ages and backgrounds as a substitute teacher. She also volunteered in classrooms working with students with autism spectrum disorder. Kassidy completed her bachelor's degree in psychology at California State University, Chico... Read more.



Pasadena Magazine Feature

Thank you Pasadena Magazine for this featured article: The Executive Director of Friends In Deed is Turning Homelessness into Hope

"Our mission is providing supportive services to meet basic human needs with compassion, connection, and dignity. For us, success is when every person who comes through our doors, in any of our programs, is going to be treated like a human being and given compassion... Click here to read full article.

Tea Party at TWR

A midsummer tea party! \(\sigma\) \(\sigma\) A huge shoutout to our wonderful volunteer Judi and her friends. They crafted a delightful afternoon tea experience for The Women's Room guests with homemade desserts, seasonal teas, and extraordinary service... Read more.



News and Events

Volunteer Appreciation BBQ

Calling all volunteers! We want to celebrate YOU as an integral part of our community. Please join us for our Friends In Deed Volunteer Appreciation BBQ on Thursday, September 14th from 4-6pm at Farnsworth Park in Altadena for a casual afternoon of activities, music, tasty BBQ courtesy of the Knights of Columbus, and community!

Please <u>RSVP Here!</u>

Leave a Lasting Legacy

Thank you to those who were able to attend our Leaving a Lasting Legacy event! We hope you enjoyed the presentation on planned giving by Certified Financial Planner Juan C. Ros. For those not able to attend live, please click below to listen/watch at your own convenience:

Recording Available Here!

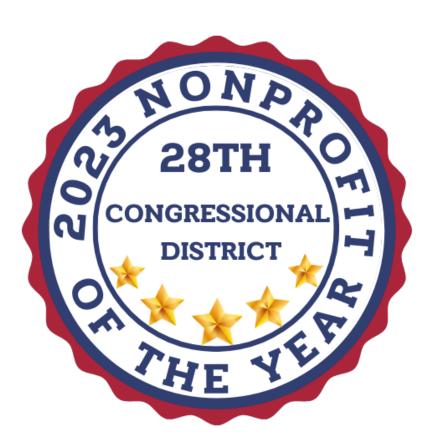




Water Bottles Needed!

Summertime heat is especially dangerous for people experiencing homelessness. Please consider purchasing an extra case of water bottles next time you are at the market. Onsite donations are appreciated Fridays and Saturdays from 9am to 3pm at 444 E. Washington Blvd.





Friends In Deed is committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion. We embrace and celebrate the spectrum of our employees', volunteers', and clients' ages, color, ability or disability, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, language, national origin, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, veteran status, neurodiversity, and other characteristics that make our employees, volunteers, and clients unique.

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